Appointment on compassionate grounds in Defence institutions

†1801. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees who died in harness in the Defence institutions during the last four years; and

(b) the number of the family members/dependents of such employees appointed on compassionate grounds and the number of females and males among them separately?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Acquiring Traked Self-propelled Gun

1802. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to acquire Tracked Self-propelled Gun;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to procure them;

(c) whether Government have invited tenders for procurement;

(d) if so, the response from various suppliers and their details; and

(e) the views expressed by the experts about their features?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (e) The acquisition of a Tracked Self-propelled Gun is one of the proposals under consideration of the Government as part of the on-going modernisation programme.

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.